

Dr. Halverson to continue his work with the school following his retirement. As the school newspaper, *Augustana Today*, notes: Halverson has laid the groundwork for his successor by enhancing *Augustana's* financial viability, encouraging faculty research, undertaking strategic planning, and strengthening alumni support.

Additionally, Dr. Halverson is a steadfast proponent of eliminating barriers for people with disabilities, particularly concerning theater and the arts. His compassion and outspoken commitment have moved him to write extensively on the topic, as well as travel all over our country, speaking and presenting at various conferences. As *Augustana's* first president proficient in sign language, it is clear that Dr. Halverson personifies his values and takes to heart his role as an educator.

Mr. President, it is an honor for me to share the impressive accomplishments of Dr. Bruce Halverson with my colleagues. I commend him for his tireless dedication to theatre, education, and enhancing the arts, especially in the State of South Dakota. The lives of countless people have been enormously enhanced by Dr. Halverson's talent and leadership as president of *Augustana College*. I wish the very best for him, his wife Nancy, and their three sons Tait, Jeffery and Cole, as Dr. Halverson continues to contribute to and improve education throughout South Dakota. ●

HONORING THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and publicly recognize the city of Alexandria, SD. This year marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Alexandria, and from August 14 through August 18, its citizens will gather to celebrate their proud past as well as their hope for a promising future.

Located three miles from the banks of the James River in southeast South Dakota, Alexandria was originally named Clarksville after Dearborn Clark, who donated the land upon which the town was built. It was renamed Alexander in 1879, and later changed to Alexandria, to honor Alexander Mitchell, the president of the Chicago, Milwaukee Railway. The first buildings were built in 1880, and the city was officially incorporated in 1883. Later that decade, Alexandria was named county seat of Hanson County, a title it still maintains.

The frontier town grew quickly in the following years, and by 1893, the population exceeded 1,000 people. Enjoying a robust agricultural economy, Alexandria shipped more than 1,000 boxcars of grain annually. In 1914, the city purchased an electric generator, and local businessmen financed a \$1,200 project to make Alexandria one of the first communities in South Dakota with electric streetlights. In 1885, the city applied to become the State capital, but came in fourth in the voting.

Since the boom years of the early 1900s, economic circumstances have, of course, changed. Still, Alexandria continues to provide essential services and support to local farmers and ranchers. The rugged days of pioneer life have ended, but the residents of this extraordinary community continue to exemplify the bold and enterprising pioneer spirit.

In her book, *Hanson Heritage*, Mildred Soladay celebrates the courage of the settlers who founded Alexandria: "They had no past," she writes, "but the infinite future lay before them." Today, the citizens of Alexandria do indeed have a past worthy of celebration, yet as they commemorate their city's 125th anniversary, the promise of their future remains infinite. ●

MAYOR HARRY MIMS

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, today I wish to say a few words about one of Louisiana's finest public servants, Mayor Harry Mims of East Hodge. Mayor Mims recently celebrated his 91st birthday and has dedicated the past 37 years to the people of East Hodge as their mayor. First elected in 1968, he has the distinction of being the first and so far only mayor of this community, population of 366. In fact, some say that if it were not for Harry Mims, there would not be an East Hodge as he was instrumental in the city's founding.

Mayor Mims' motto that has made East Hodge thrive is one many small town politicians understand, when there is work to be done, "You have to do it yourself." One of the best examples of his drive to bring to East Hodge some of the amenities and services enjoyed by their neighbors is his unyielding efforts to pave the streets of East Hodge. At one point in recent history, the streets were too narrow for cars to pass. The mayor wrote grant after grant to find the money he needed to manage this small community and as a result of his tenacity, they now have a new town hall, a large water system, two apartment buildings, a fire station, two trucks and a community center.

Last Saturday, the Louisiana Chapter of the National Conference of Black Mayors honored Mayor Mims for his years of service to the people of East Hodge and the State of Louisiana. Mayor Mims told them he plans to run for 8 more years, if the Lord will allow him to. It is my fervent prayer that the good Lord allows Mayor Mims to continue to serve the people of East Hodge as he has so diligently for the past 37 years and that he does so in the best of health. As the daughter of a Mayor, I know that the people of East Hodge join me in this prayer. Thank you Mayor Mims, for all that you have done and continue to do for the people you serve. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2005, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 27, 2005, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has agreed to the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3453. An act to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2005, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 27, 2005, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3453. An act to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

Under authority of the order of July 27, 2005, the enrolled bill was signed on July 27, 2005, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. McCONNELL).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:32 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3045. An act to implement the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement.

At 12:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1132. An act to provide for the establishment of a controlled substance monitoring program in each State.